

The BOYS

Dear Becky



08

MATURE

DYNAMITE

DA
RI
CK
2020

The BOYS™

Dear Becky

Written by: GARTH ENNIS

Illustrated by: RUSS BRAUN

Colored by: TONY AVIÑA

Lettered by: SIMON BOWLAND

Cover by: DARICK ROBERTSON

Editor: JOE RYBANDT

The Boys created by:
GARTH ENNIS & DARICK ROBERTSON

08

Billy Butcher, Wee Hughie, Mother's Milk, The Frenchman and The Female were The Boys: a CIA-backed team of very dangerous people, each one dedicated to the struggle against the most lethal force on Earth — superpower. Some superheroes had to be watched. Some of them had to be controlled. And some of them — sometimes — had to be taken out of the picture.

The issue was decided in one final battle against a massed superhero army, when a plan concocted by the “supes” to overthrow the US government went horribly awry. Now, twelve years later, Hughie and his lover Annie January have returned to his home in the Scottish town of Auchterladle — their battles fought and won, their torment over.

The days when Colonel Greg Mallory led The Boys are firmly in the past. So too are the times Billy Butcher shared with a woman who strove to send him down a different road. All of that is over and done with. Finished.

Now read on...

DYNAMITE

www.dynamite.com • Facebook: /Dynamitecomics • Instagram: /Dynamitecomics • Tumblr: dynamitecomics.tumblr.com • Twitter: @dynamitecomics • YouTube: /Dynamitecomics

Nick Barrucci: CEO / Publisher • Juan Collado: President / COO • Brandon Dante Primavera: V.P. of IT and Operations • Joe Rybandt: Executive Editor • Matt Idelson: Senior Editor • Alexis Persson: Creative Director • Rachel Kilbury: Digital Multimedia Associate • Katie Hidalgo: Graphic Designer • Nick Pentz: Graphic Designer • Alan Payne: V.P. of Sales and Marketing • Francis Limcuando: Sales Manager • Vincent Faust: Marketing Coordinator • Jim Kuhoric: Vice President of Product Development • Jay Spence: Director of Product Development • Mariano Nieceza: Director of Research & Development • Amy Jackson: Administrative Coordinator

THE BOYS™: DEAR BECKY #8. Published by Dynamite Entertainment, 113 Gaither Dr., STE 205, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054. Copyright © 2020 Spitfire Productions Ltd. and Darick Robertson. All rights reserved. THE BOYS, all characters, the distinctive likenesses thereof and all related elements are trademarks of Spitfire Productions, Ltd. and Darick Robertson. All rights reserved. “Dynamite” and “Dynamite Entertainment” are ®, and the “DE Logo” is ™ and ©, Dynamite Entertainment. All rights reserved. All names, characters, events, and locales in this publication are entirely fictional. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events or places, without satiric intent, is coincidental. No portion of this book may be reproduced by any means (digital or print) without the written permission of Dynamite Entertainment except for review purposes. Printed in Canada.

For information regarding press, media rights, foreign rights, licensing, promotions, and advertising e-mail: marketing@dynamite.com.

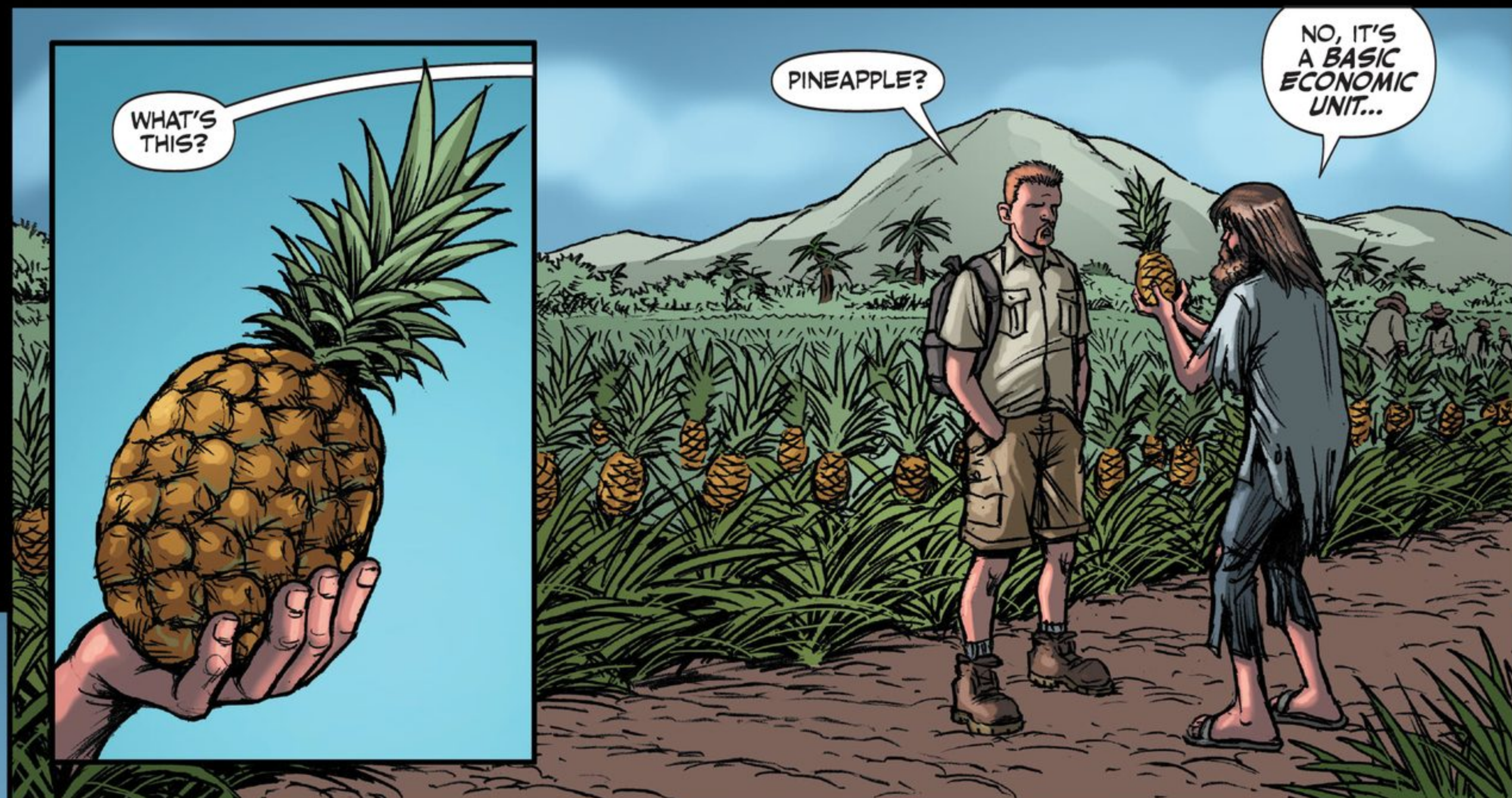


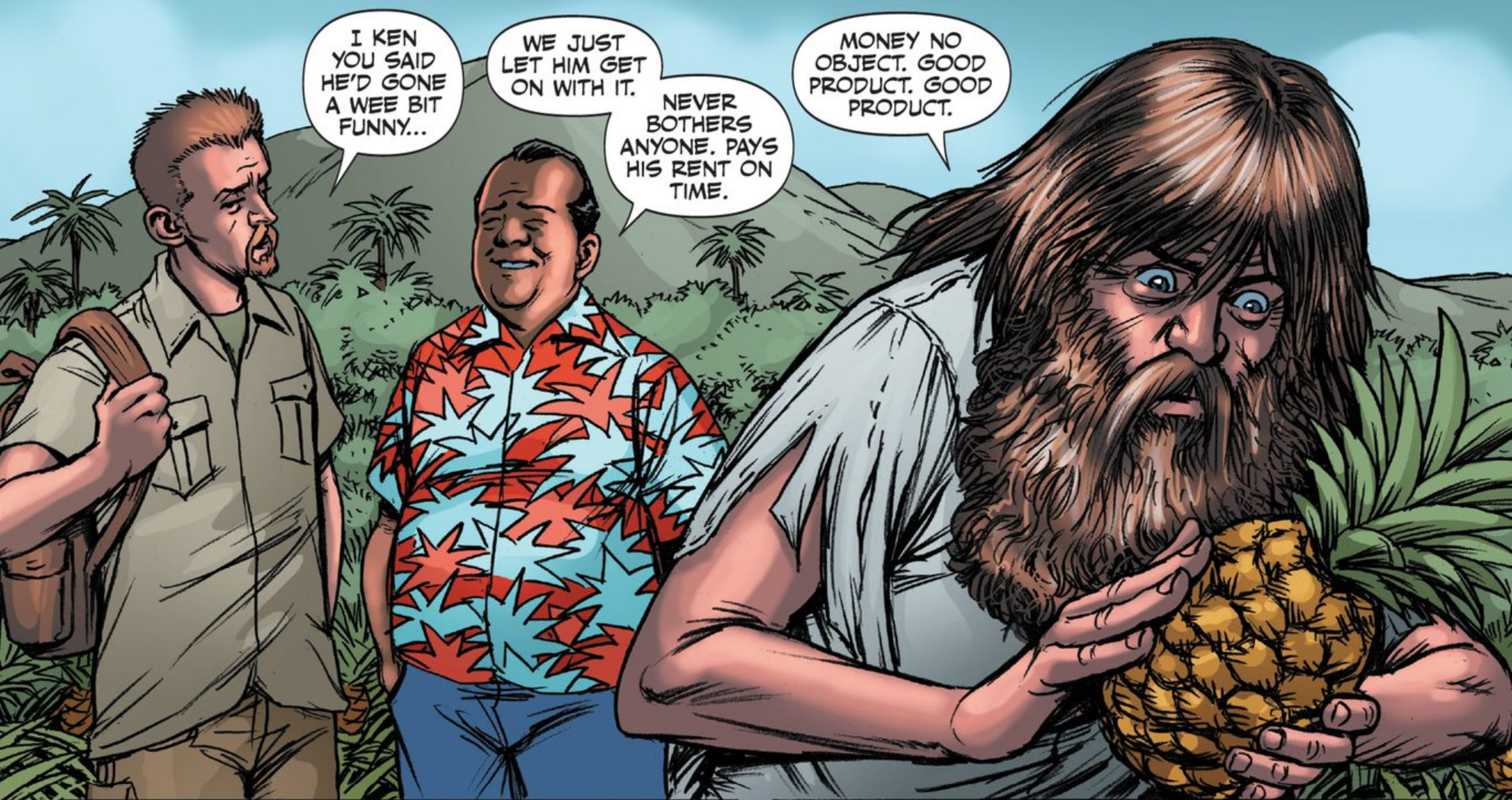
PEFC Certified

This product is from sustainably managed forests and controlled sources

PEFC/01-31-106

www.pefc.org





I KEN
YOU SAID
HE'D GONE
A WEE BIT
FUNNY...

WE JUST
LET HIM GET
ON WITH IT.

NEVER
BOTHERS
ANYONE. PAYS
HIS RENT ON
TIME.

MONEY NO
OBJECT. GOOD
PRODUCT. GOOD
PRODUCT.



SO HE--
HE RUNS THIS
PLACE?

HE COULDN'T
RUN A LEMONADE
STAND. JUST
WANDERS AROUND
QUOTING MILTON
FRIEDMAN.

BUT MILTON.
MILTON. HE
DIDN'T HAVE TO
FACE WHAT
I DID.



AND I FACED IT.
WHEN IT FLEW RIGHT UP
TO MY OFFICE WINDOW.
I LOOKED IT RIGHT
IN THE EYE.

ALSO
A LOT OF
OTHER STUFF
WE DON'T...
REALLY...

LOOK, I'VE HAD
A BIT O' BOTHER RECENTLY,
AN' IT'S JUST POSSIBLE HE'S
BEHIND IT: SO THERE'S NO
WAY HE COULD BE *FAKIN'*
ALL THIS, IS THERE?



IF HE IS, HE'S
BEEN DOING IT EVERY
DAY SINCE HE GOT HERE.
ALMOST TEN YEARS
AGO NOW.

AYE.

AND I HAD A
PLAN. A PLAN IN
PLACE. BUT IT ALL
FELL APART WHEN I
HAD A BAD
PRODUCT.



RIGHT.
SO
NO' HIM,
THEN.

WHAT WE
WANT TO DO IS
START FROM
SCRATCH, BUT
WITH THE *BASIC
ECONOMIC
UNIT...*



EPILOGUE

JANUARY



CAN'T BE

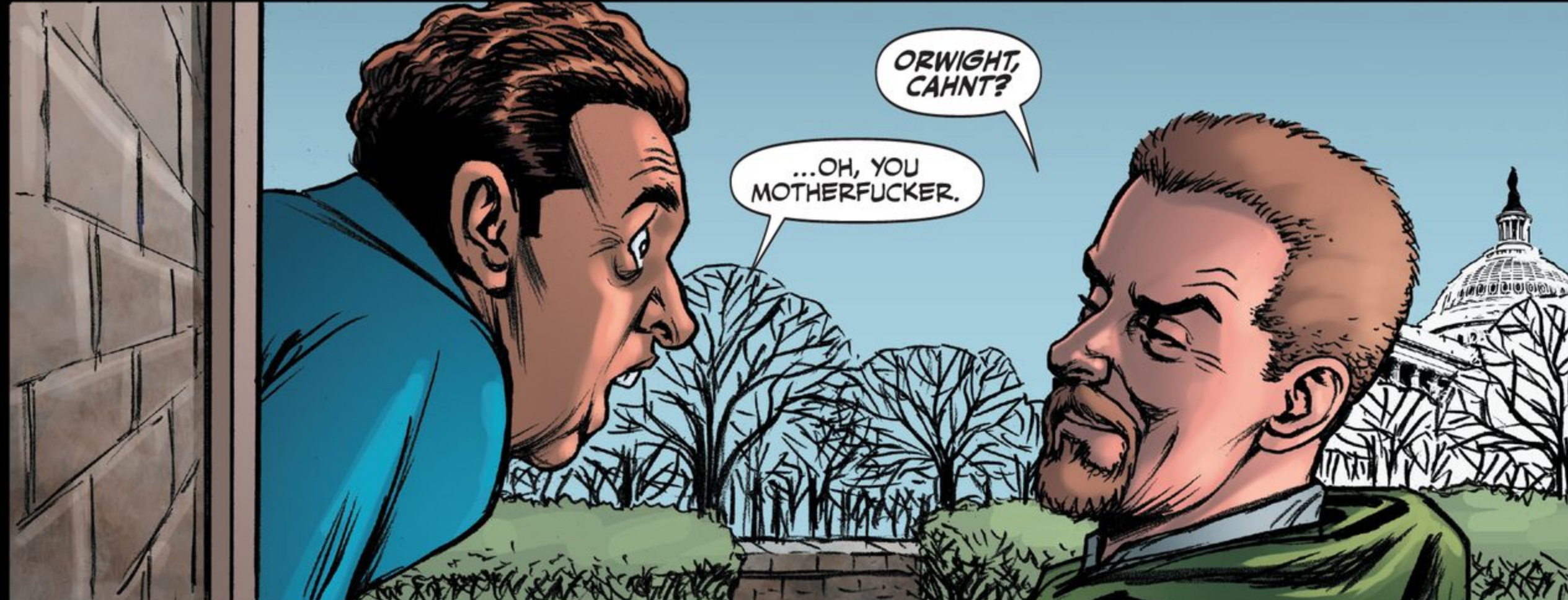
CAN'T BE

SIR?

ENGLISH ACCENT? TALKS LIKE MICHAEL CAINE?



UH, WELL, HE DEFINITELY HAS AN ACCENT...



ORWIGHT, CAHNT?

...OH, YOU MOTHERFUCKER.



YOU LITTLE PRICK, YOU WORTHLESS LUMP OF SCOTTISH SHIT, YOU COCKSUCKER...

AW, C'MON, MONKEY...!

KESSLER
CONSULTING LLC.

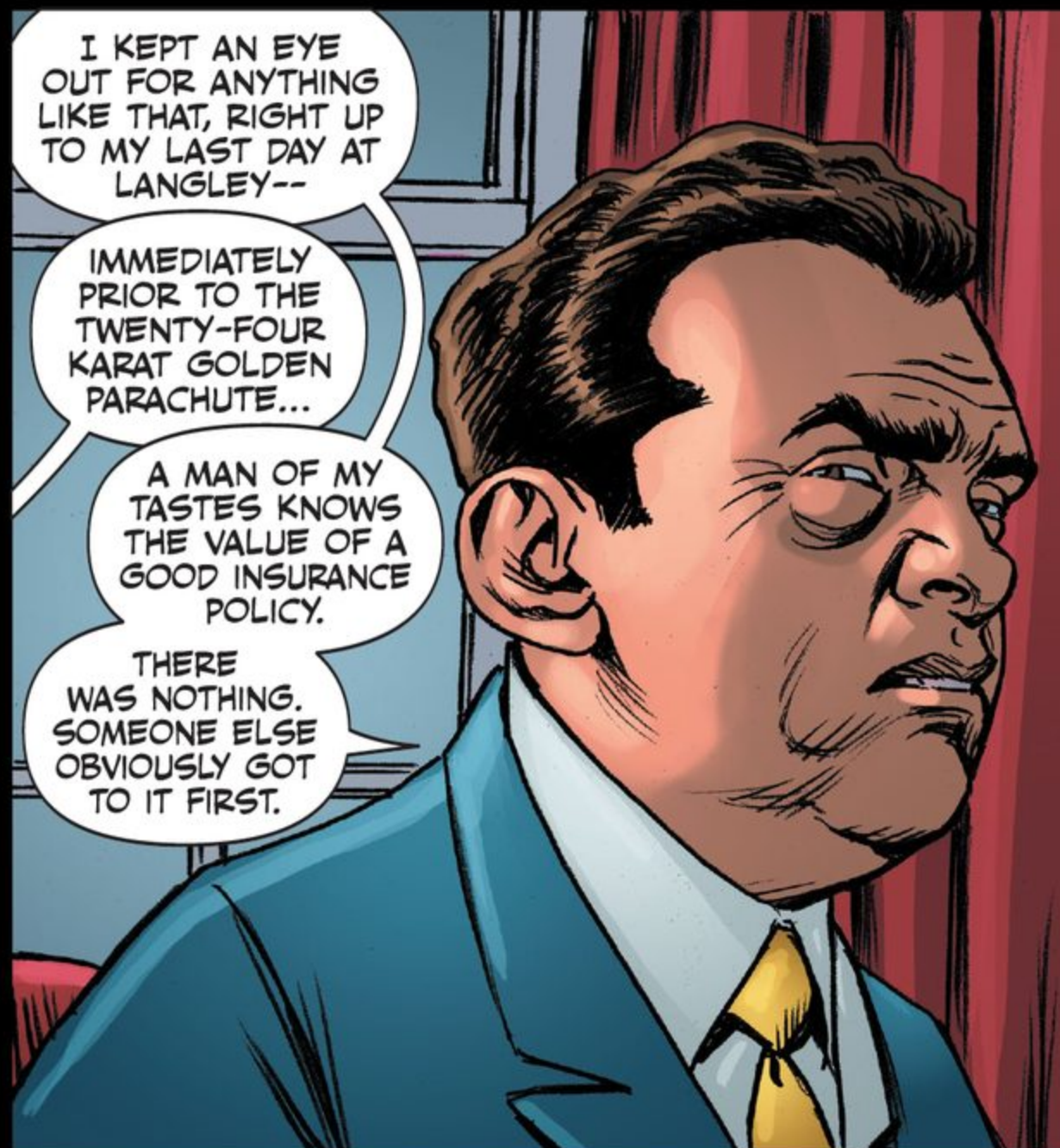




HE...TOLD YOU WHERE TO FIND THE SLUTTY CUNT TAPE, RIGHT?

NO, HE FEDEXED IT THE DAY BEFORE THE EMPIRE STATE. I GOT IT LATER ON AT THE POTAMUS ADDRESS.

WELL, ANYTHING FROM HIS ACTUAL RESIDENCE--SUCH AS IT WAS--WOULD HAVE BEEN SEIZED, INVENTORIED AND STORED.



I KEPT AN EYE OUT FOR ANYTHING LIKE THAT, RIGHT UP TO MY LAST DAY AT LANGLEY--

IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE TWENTY-FOUR KARAT GOLDEN PARACHUTE...

A MAN OF MY TASTES KNOWS THE VALUE OF A GOOD INSURANCE POLICY.

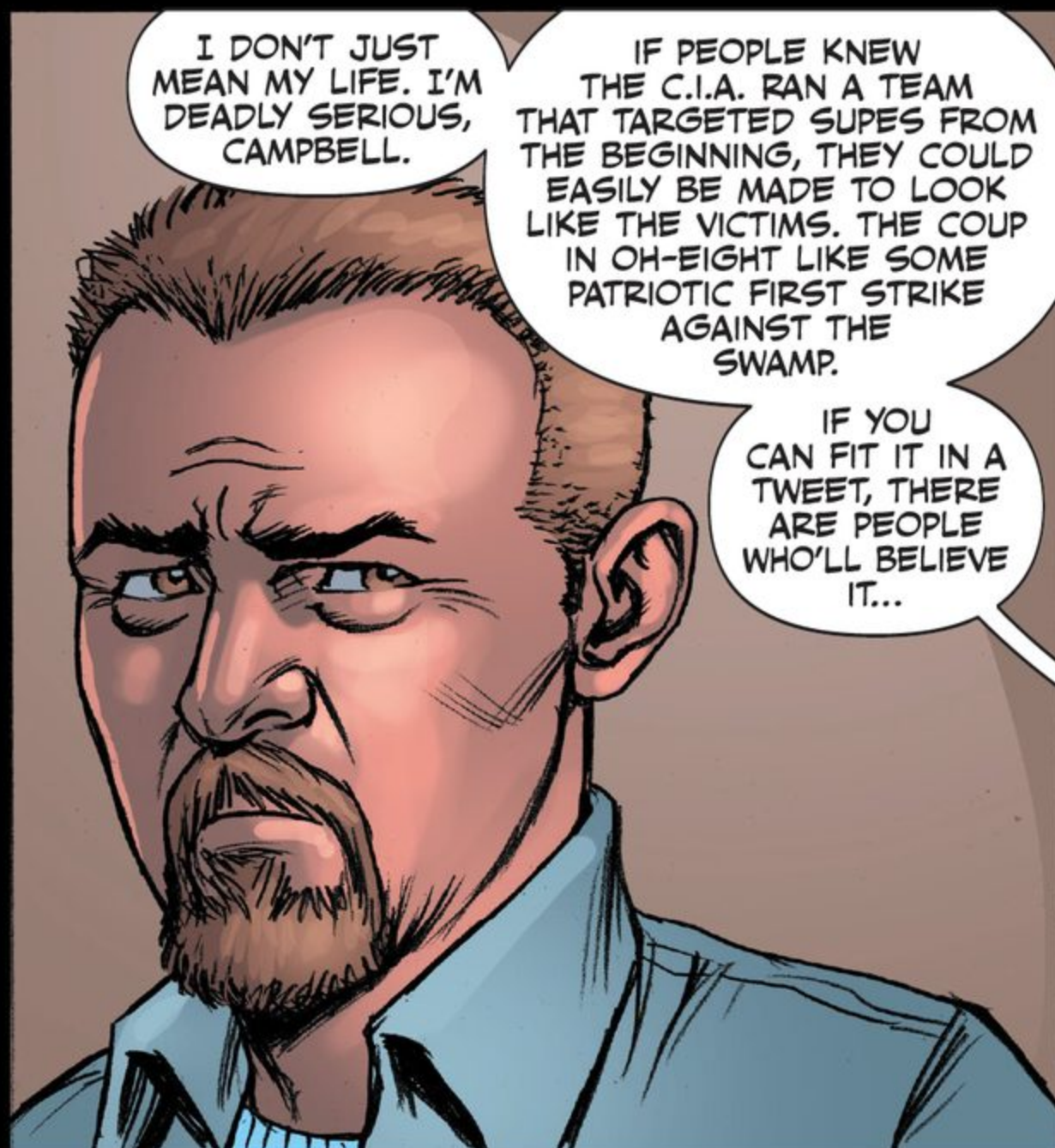
THERE WAS NOTHING. SOMEONE ELSE OBVIOUSLY GOT TO IT FIRST.



OFF TO BOSTON, THEN.

YOU REALIZE IF THIS GETS OUT, IT COULD RUIN EVERYTHING?

THAT'S WHY I CAME TO YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE. THAT AN' I KNEW YOU'D NEVER'VE HAD THE BOLLOCKS TO DO IT YOURSELF.



I DON'T JUST MEAN MY LIFE. I'M DEADLY SERIOUS, CAMPBELL.

IF PEOPLE KNEW THE C.I.A. RAN A TEAM THAT TARGETED SUPES FROM THE BEGINNING, THEY COULD EASILY BE MADE TO LOOK LIKE THE VICTIMS. THE COUP IN OH-EIGHT LIKE SOME PATRIOTIC FIRST STRIKE AGAINST THE SWAMP.

IF YOU CAN FIT IT IN A TWEET, THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO'LL BELIEVE IT...

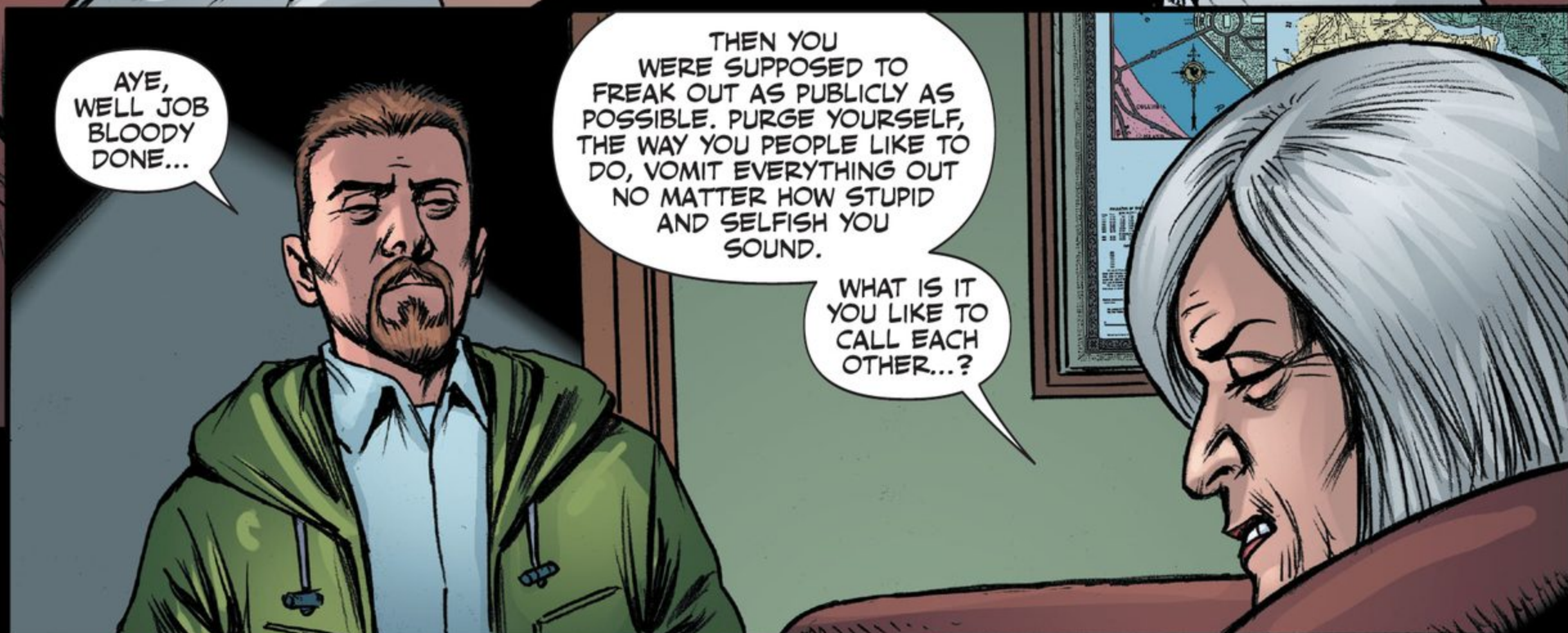


NO FUCKIN' WAY...!

WHICH PLANET HAVE YOU BEEN ON FOR THE PAST FOUR FUCKING YEARS?



YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO GET TRIGGERED.



AYE, WELL JOB BLOODY DONE...

THEN YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO FREAK OUT AS PUBLICLY AS POSSIBLE. PURGE YOURSELF, THE WAY YOU PEOPLE LIKE TO DO, VOMIT EVERYTHING OUT NO MATTER HOW STUPID AND SELFISH YOU SOUND.

WHAT IS IT YOU LIKE TO CALL EACH OTHER...?



SNOWFLAKES.

I DIDN'T SAY YOU COULD SIT.

FUCK OFF.



THAT HELP
WI' THE NERVES,
DOES IT?

SUCK
MY DICK.

SO
WHERE DID I
GO WRONG?



I'D LIKE TO TELL
YOU THE LOVE OF A GOOD
WOMAN KEPT ME STRAIGHT,
BUT...THERE'S NO WAY ANYONE
IN THEIR RIGHT *MIND* WOULD
PUT IT ALL OUT
THERE.

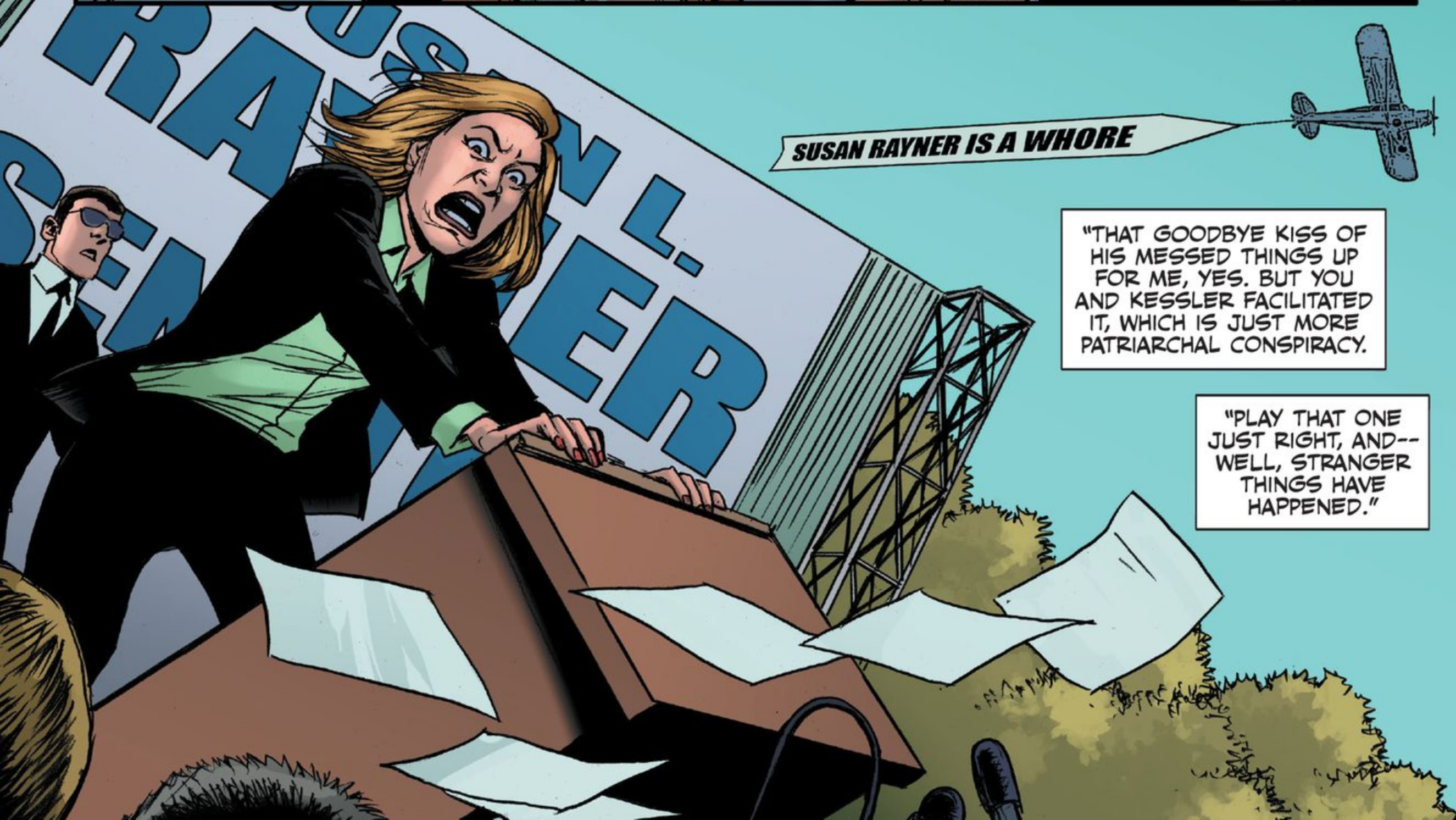
THE STUFF
WE DID, THE
THINGS THAT
WERE GOIN'
ON, COME
ON...!



ALTHOUGH OBVIOUSLY
SOMEONE NO' IN THEIR
RIGHT MIND WOULD BE
FINE WI' IT. DID YOU THINK
YOU COULD SPIN SOME
SORT O' COMEBACK
OUT O' THIS?

ONE WOMAN,
CAUGHT AT THE CENTER
OF THE MAELSTROM.
STRUGGLING TO HOLD
THE LINE AS PRIVILEGED,
ENTITLED MEN RUN OUT
OF CONTROL.

THERE ARE
STILL PEOPLE
WHO ARE
INTERESTED
IN ME.

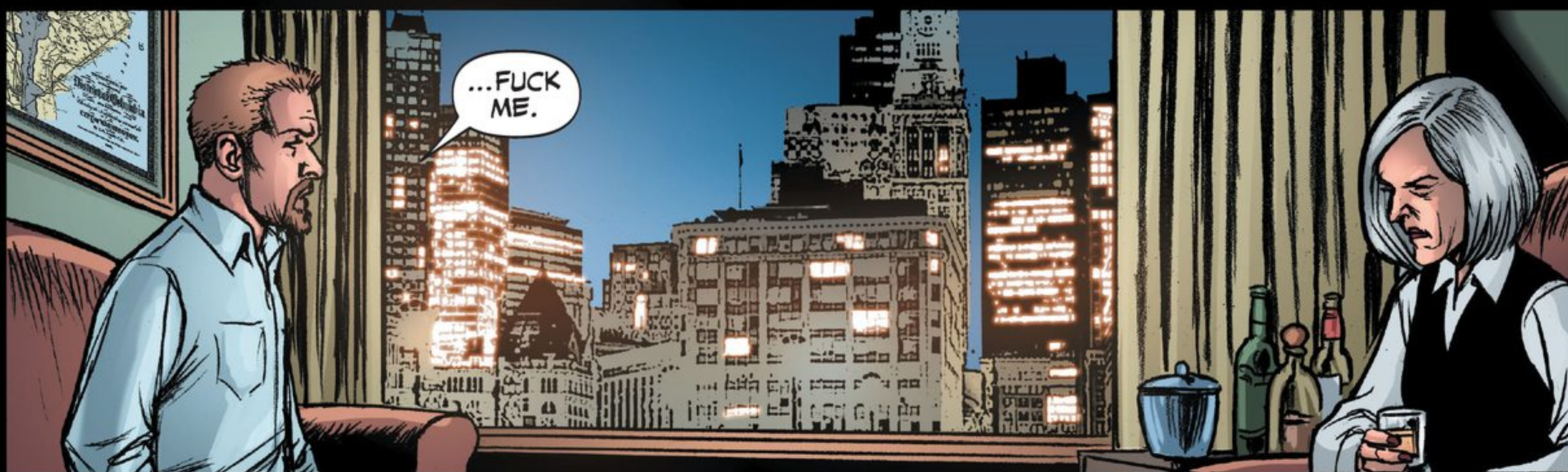


SUSAN RAYNER IS A WHORE

"THAT GOODBYE KISS OF
HIS MESSED THINGS UP
FOR ME, YES. BUT YOU
AND KESSLER FACILITATED
IT, WHICH IS JUST MORE
PATRIARCHAL CONSPIRACY.

"PLAY THAT ONE
JUST RIGHT, AND--
WELL, STRANGER
THINGS HAVE
HAPPENED."





...FUCK ME.

YOU WOULD SERIOUSLY--

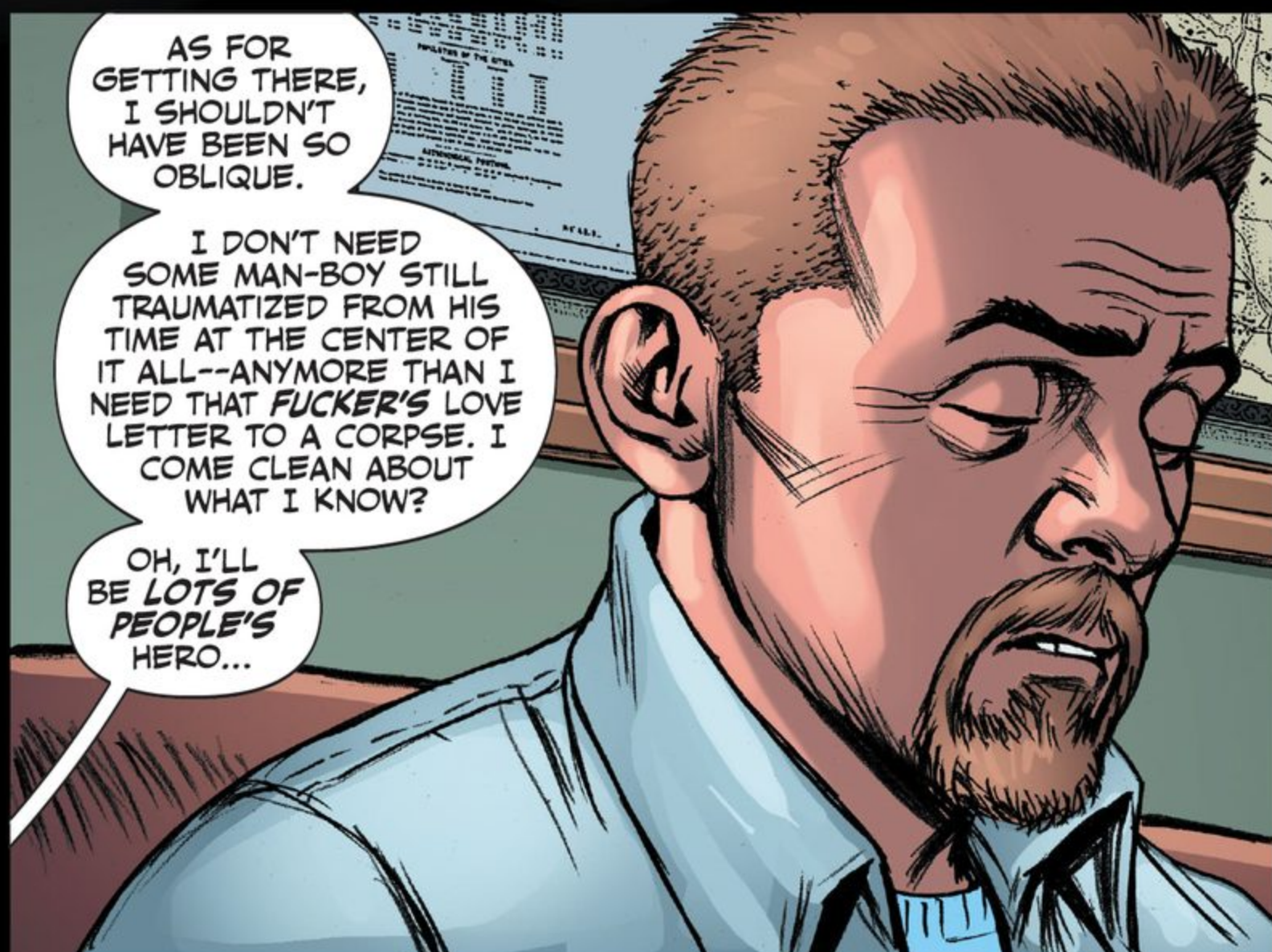
ONCE I GOT THERE?

THERE ARE STRANGE NOTIONS ABROAD IN THE LAND. AND UNKNOWN GOLD TO BE MINED FROM THEM.

AS FOR GETTING THERE, I SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO OBLIQUE.

I DON'T NEED SOME MAN-BOY STILL TRAUMATIZED FROM HIS TIME AT THE CENTER OF IT ALL--ANYMORE THAN I NEED THAT *FUCKER'S* LOVE LETTER TO A CORPSE. I COME CLEAN ABOUT WHAT I KNOW?

OH, I'LL BE LOTS OF PEOPLE'S HERO...



AYE.

I'M GUESSIN' IT'LL NO' BE THE D.N.C. THIS TIME ROUND.

YOU MIGHT BE SURPRISED.





OH, WHAT'S THIS NOW, ME LOSING MY SHIT WHEN HE CAME IN MY HAIR?

JUST LISTEN.

...IS BOXCAR RED ONE, A REMINDER, WE ARE STILL ORBITING FIFTEEN KICKS SOUTH WEST OF TANGO PINPOINT, OVER...



AH, UNDERSTOOD, RED ONE. STILL WAITING ON--

STRIKE THAT, RED ONE. STAND BY.

WHO IS THIS?



THIS IS BOXCAR RED ONE, WHO IS THIS?

YOU REQUESTED CLARIFICATION?

REQUESTED--? LADY, OUR SEAL F.A.C. IS TELLING US OUR TANGO PINPOINT IS A CIVILIAN TARGET, IT IS A VILLAGE FULL OF WOMEN AND KIDS...



NOW, WE ARE ALREADY TWENTY KICKS INSIDE AFGHANISTAN SO I SAY AGAIN: WHO IS THIS?



FOR THE RECORD, THIS IS ALL THE AUTHORITY YOU'LL EVER NEED.

COMPLETE YOUR MISSION.



THE PLANE THEY PATCHED YOU THROUGH TO, EVERY TRANSMISSION GETS RECORDED ON THOSE THINGS.

AND YOU CAN WIPE THEM, BUT SOMEBODY SOMEWHERE DECIDED TO--

I GET THE IDEA.



HE TOLD YOU ABOUT THAT?

JESUS FUCK.

HE DID, AYE. IT WAS MONKEY FOUND IT.

THAT IT SHOULD ALL COME DOWN TO KESSLER. AND YOU.



AND HIM.

THERE'S THE FLIGHT LOGS, TOO. WHICH I WAS A WEE BIT SURPRISED BY.



AN' THE REPORTS YOU FILED BACK IN THE EIGHTIES, WHEN YOU WERE IN THERE MAKIN' THE CONTACTS YOU HAD BOMBED FLAT LATER ON.

ADD IT ALL UP... I DOUBT YOU'LL BE MININ' MUCH GOLD OUT OF ANY O' THAT.



YOU DO
KNOW WHAT HE
WAS, DON'T
YOU?

I PROBABLY
THINK ABOUT IT
EVERY DAY O'
MY LIFE.



HE TOLD ME
WE DESERVED
EACH OTHER.

YOU REMEMBER
THAT, WHEN YOU'RE
THINKING ABOUT HIM
DRENCHING HIMSELF
IN GORE TO KILL
HER MEMORY.

YOU JUST
REMEMBER
WHO HE
ENDED UP
WITH.



YOU
READ IT,
THEN?

OF COURSE
I FUCKING
READ IT--!



WELL.

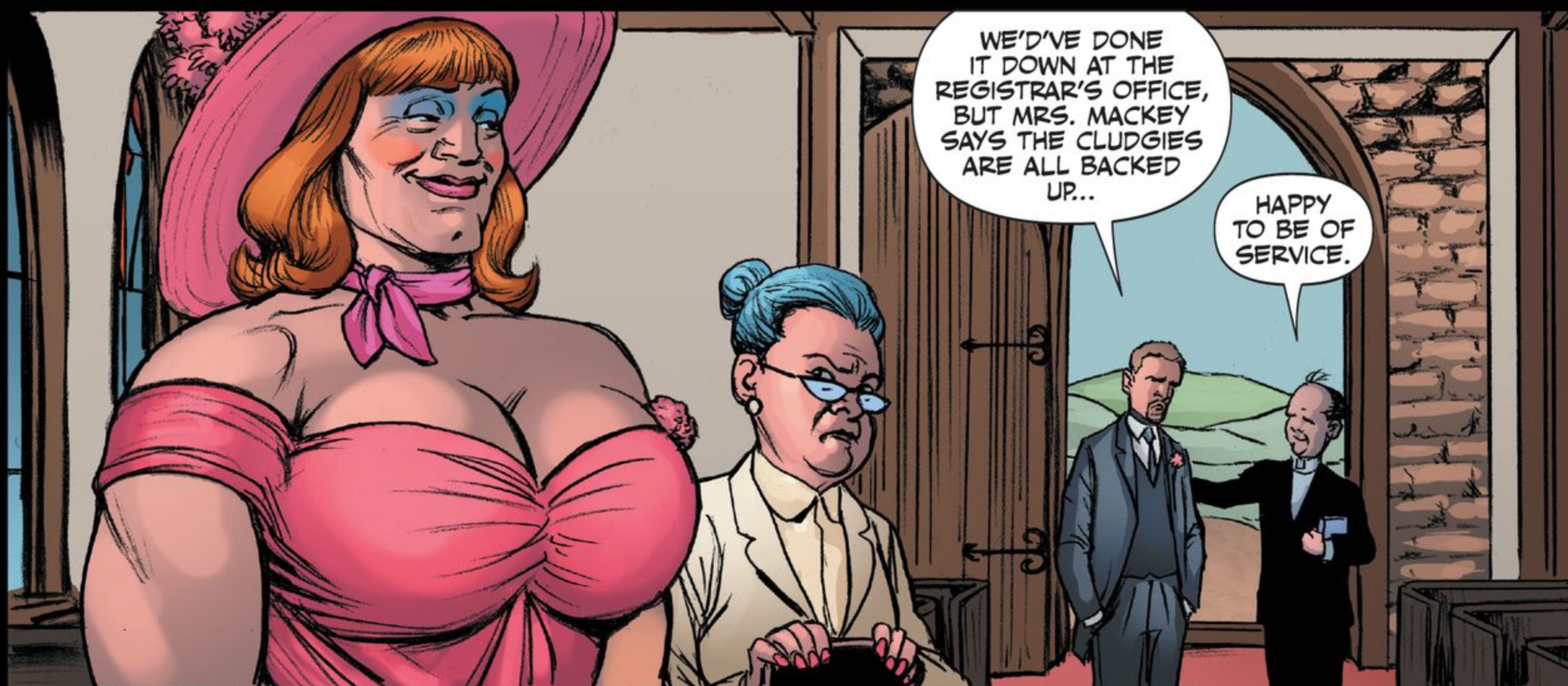
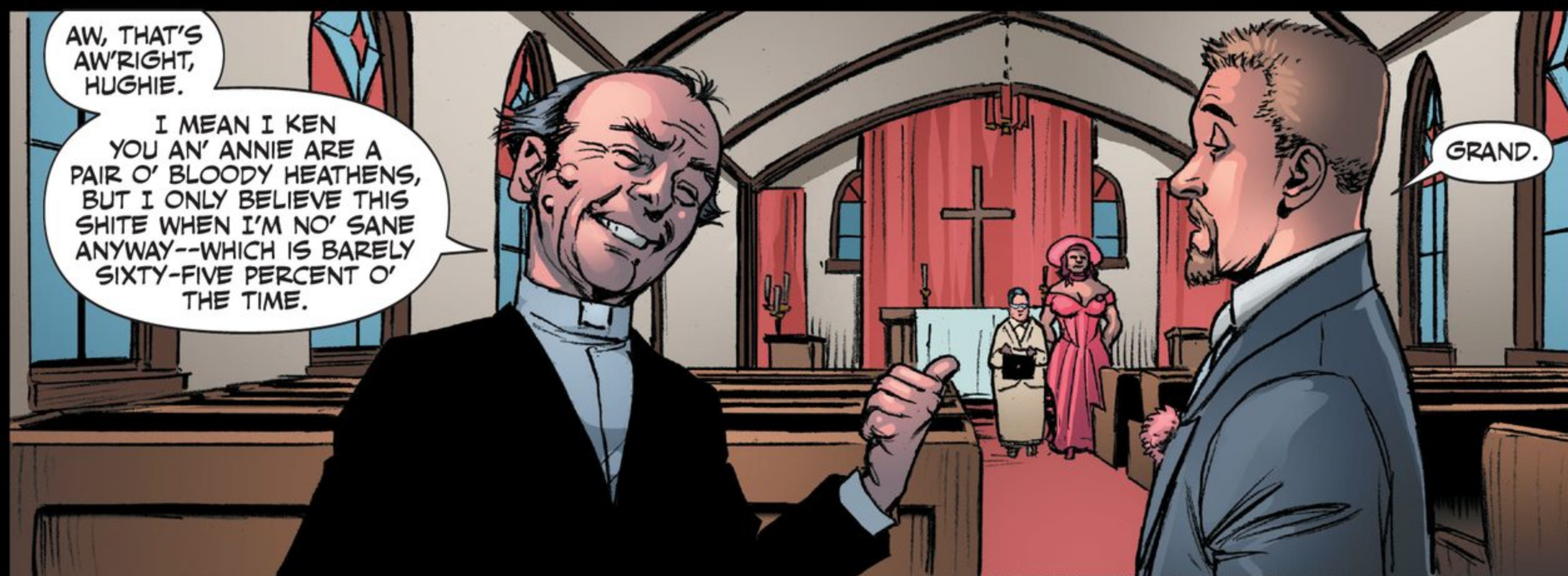
HE
TRIED TO
KILL HER,
AYE.



BUT AT
THE END O' THE
DAY, THERE WERE
THINGS HE JUST
COULDN'T DO.

DID ANYONE
DECENT EVER
LOVE YOU, MADAM
DIRECTOR?







FIND OOT NEXT WEEK, IN THE LATEST EXCITIN' ISSUE OF THE FUCKO! SEE SAMSON'S SOCKETS--THE LEPER FROM LIME STREET--THE JERICO JOCKS AN' THE BABBLIN' GEORDIE WANKERS!

HE GETS WORSE ALL THE TIME...

AW, YOU MIGHT BE SURPRISED.

GOT THE RING?



OH, BOLLOCKS...!

BOBBI, DON'T BE A PRICK--!

EH, READERS?!



KIDDIN'.

HA BLOODY HA, I THINK I JUST SHAT MYSELF LAUGHIN'!

I TELL YE WHAT, I'M A WEE BIT SURPRISED YE MADE IT HOME AT ALL.



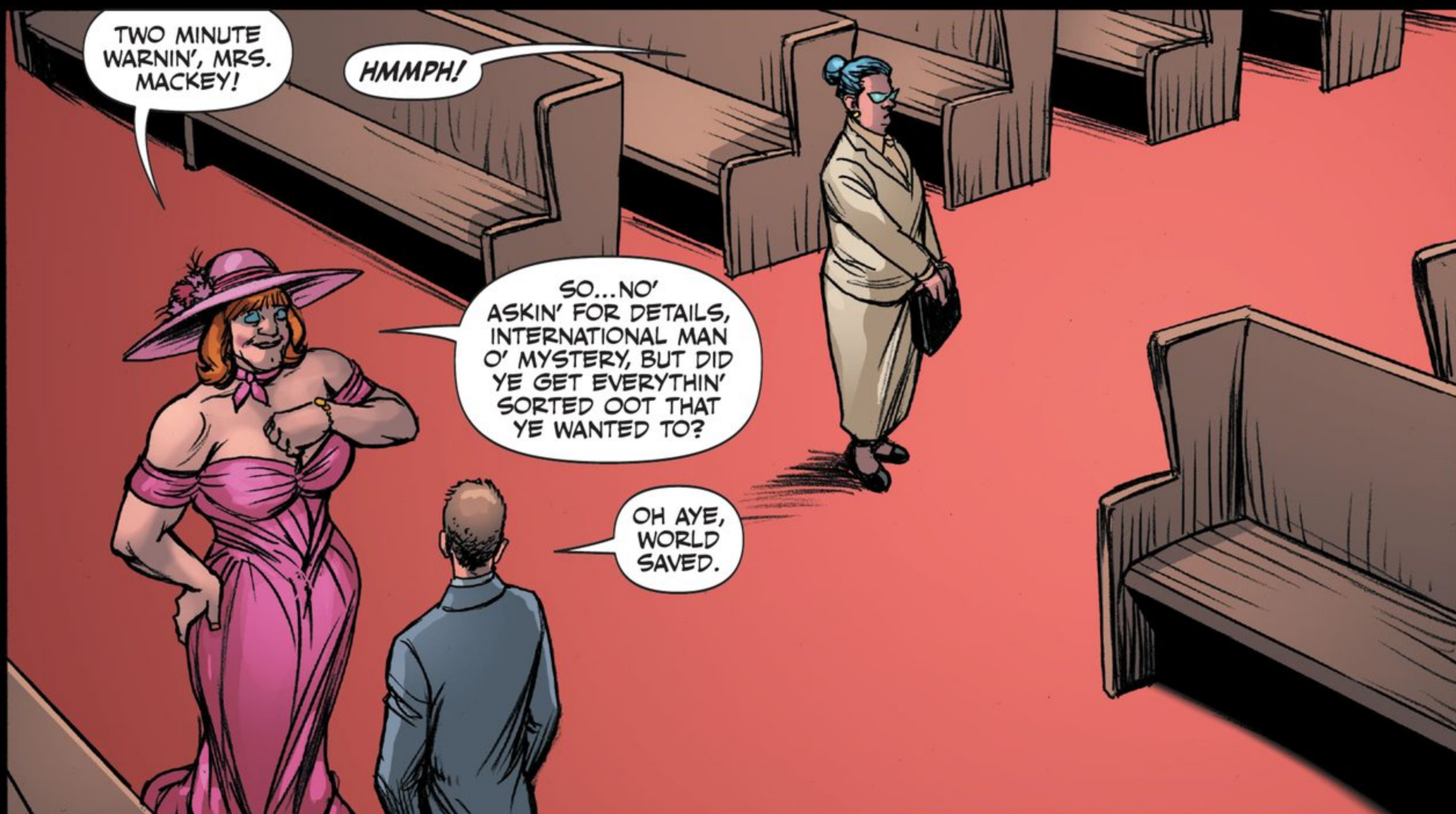
WHAT, WI' THIS LOCKDOWN THING? I KEN WHAT YOU MEAN, LOGAN WAS NEARLY DESERTED AN' GLASGOW LOOKED LIKE THEY WERE ABOUT TO TURN THE TERMINAL INTO A HAZMAT ZONE.

I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT I THINK THIS MIGHT BE VERY FUCKIN' REAL AFTER ALL.



BLOODY HELL. LAST FLIGHT OOT, EH?

HEY, GOOD JOB WE'RE HEADIN' INTO THE WHOLE THING WI' THE STUPIDEST CUNTS IN THE ENTIRE WORLD RUNNIN' THE SHOW.

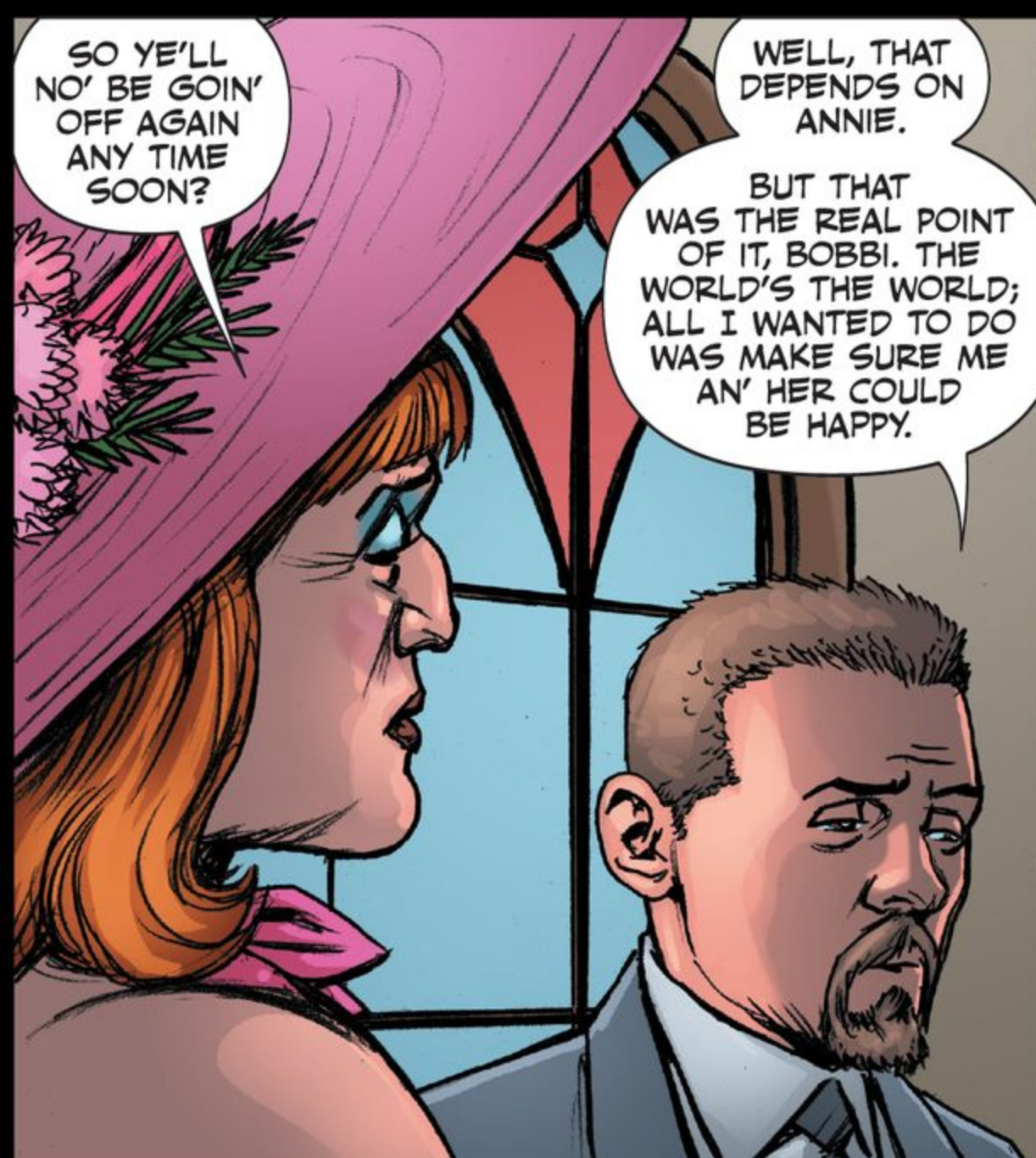


TWO MINUTE
WARNIN', MRS.
MACKEY!

HMMPH!

SO...NO'
ASKIN' FOR DETAILS,
INTERNATIONAL MAN
O' MYSTERY, BUT DID
YE GET EVERYTHIN'
SORTED OOT THAT
YE WANTED TO?

OH AYE,
WORLD
SAVED.



SO YE'LL
NO' BE GOIN'
OFF AGAIN
ANY TIME
SOON?

WELL, THAT
DEPENDS ON
ANNIE.

BUT THAT
WAS THE REAL POINT
OF IT, BOBBI. THE
WORLD'S THE WORLD;
ALL I WANTED TO DO
WAS MAKE SURE ME
AN' HER COULD
BE HAPPY.

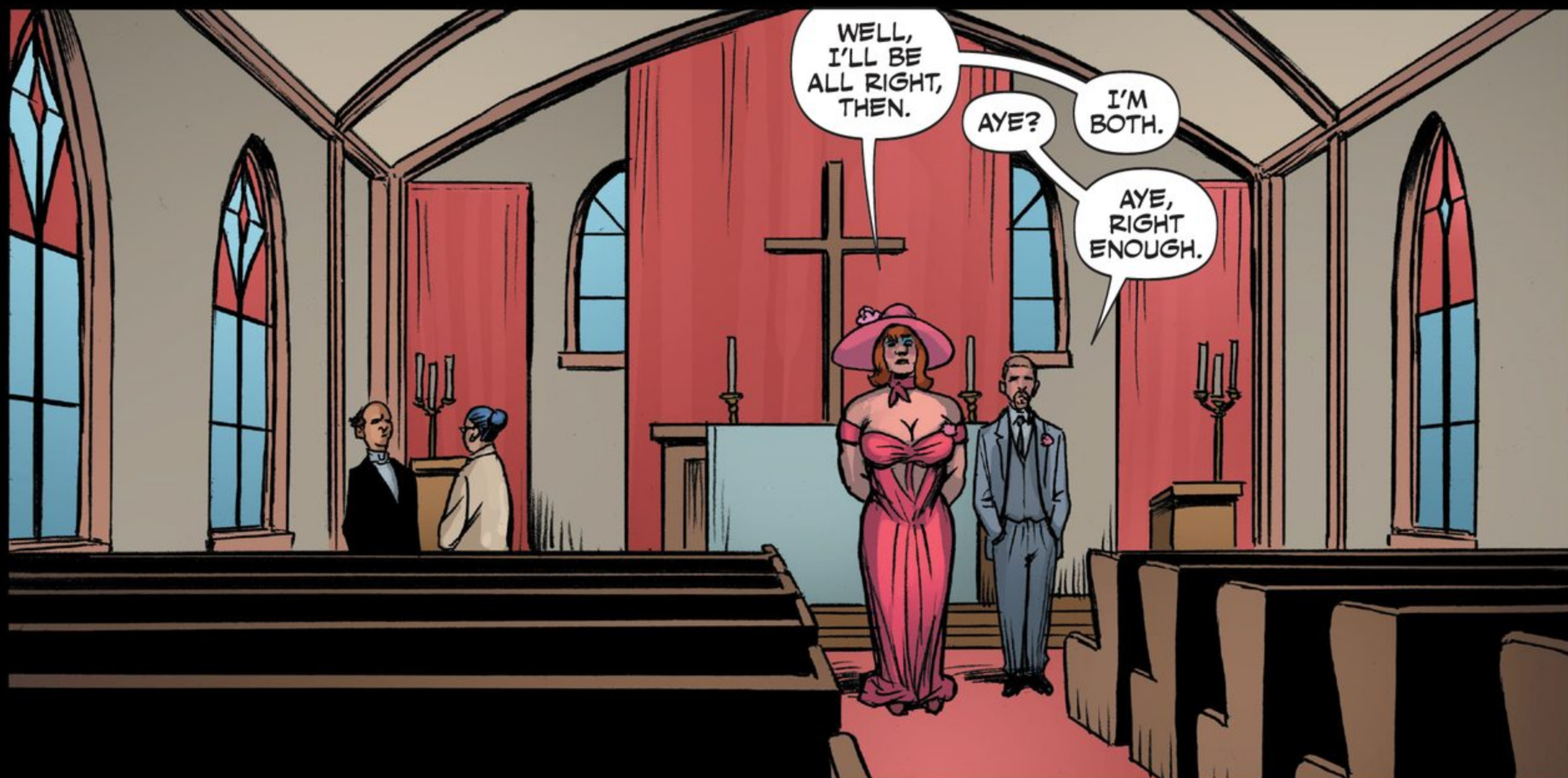


THAT'S WHERE I
NEARLY FUCKED THINGS
UP. ALL IT TOOK WAS
A WEE WHIFF O' THE OLD
SHITE, AN' I WAS RIGHT
BACK TO CRAWLIN'
AROUND IN THE DARK
AN' KEEPIN'
SECRETS.

AN'...A FELLA
TOLD ME THIS
ONCE, HE COULD
NOT'VE BEEN
ANY FUCKIN'
CLEARER...



"MEN WITHOUT
WOMEN, IT'S NO'
A GOOD IDEA."



WELL, I'LL BE ALL RIGHT, THEN.

AYE?

I'M BOTH.

AYE, RIGHT ENOUGH.



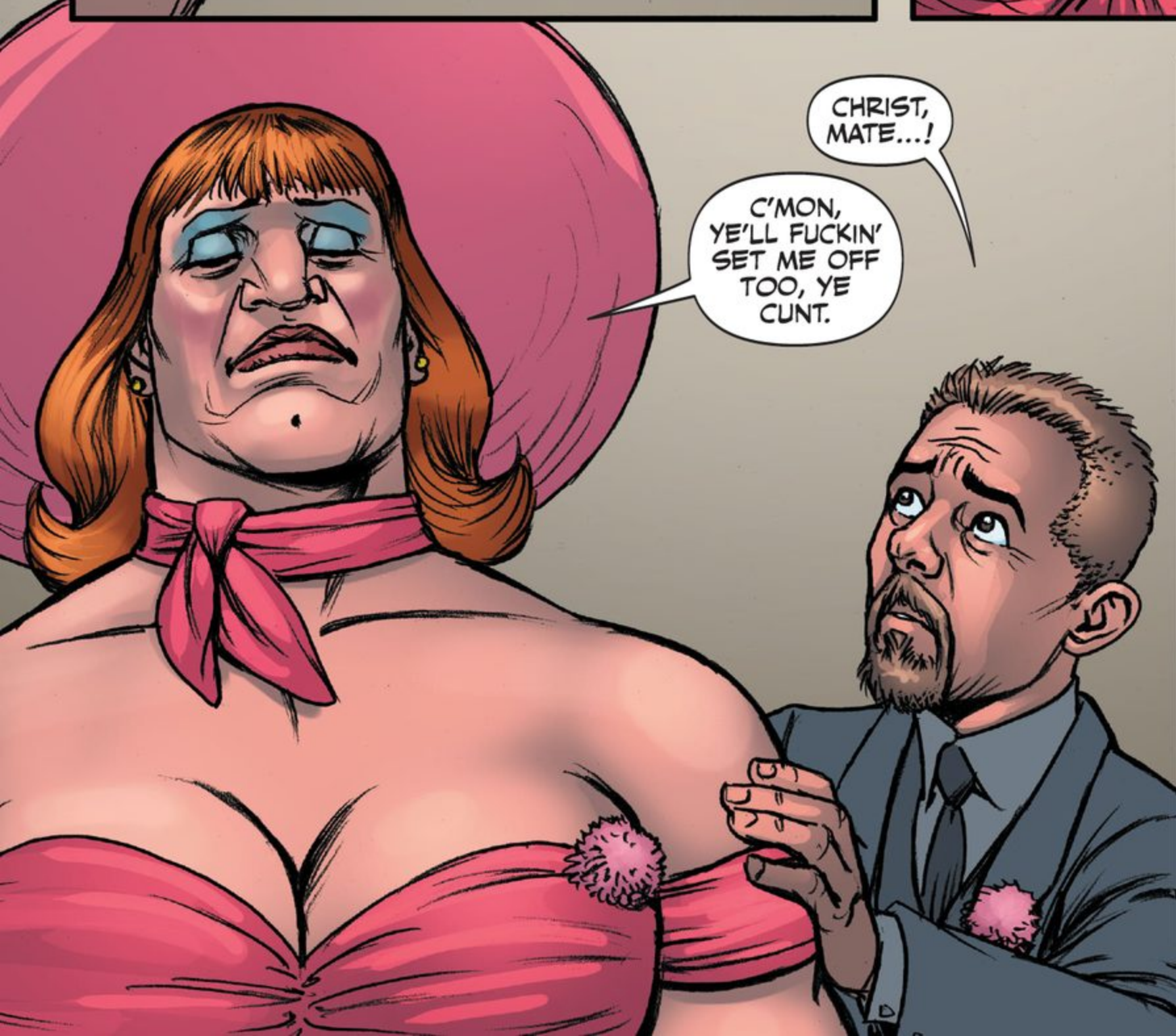
TIME?

ABOUT A MINUTE.

FUCK, HERE YE GO.



FOLLOW YE TO THE END O' THE GLEN, WEE MAN.

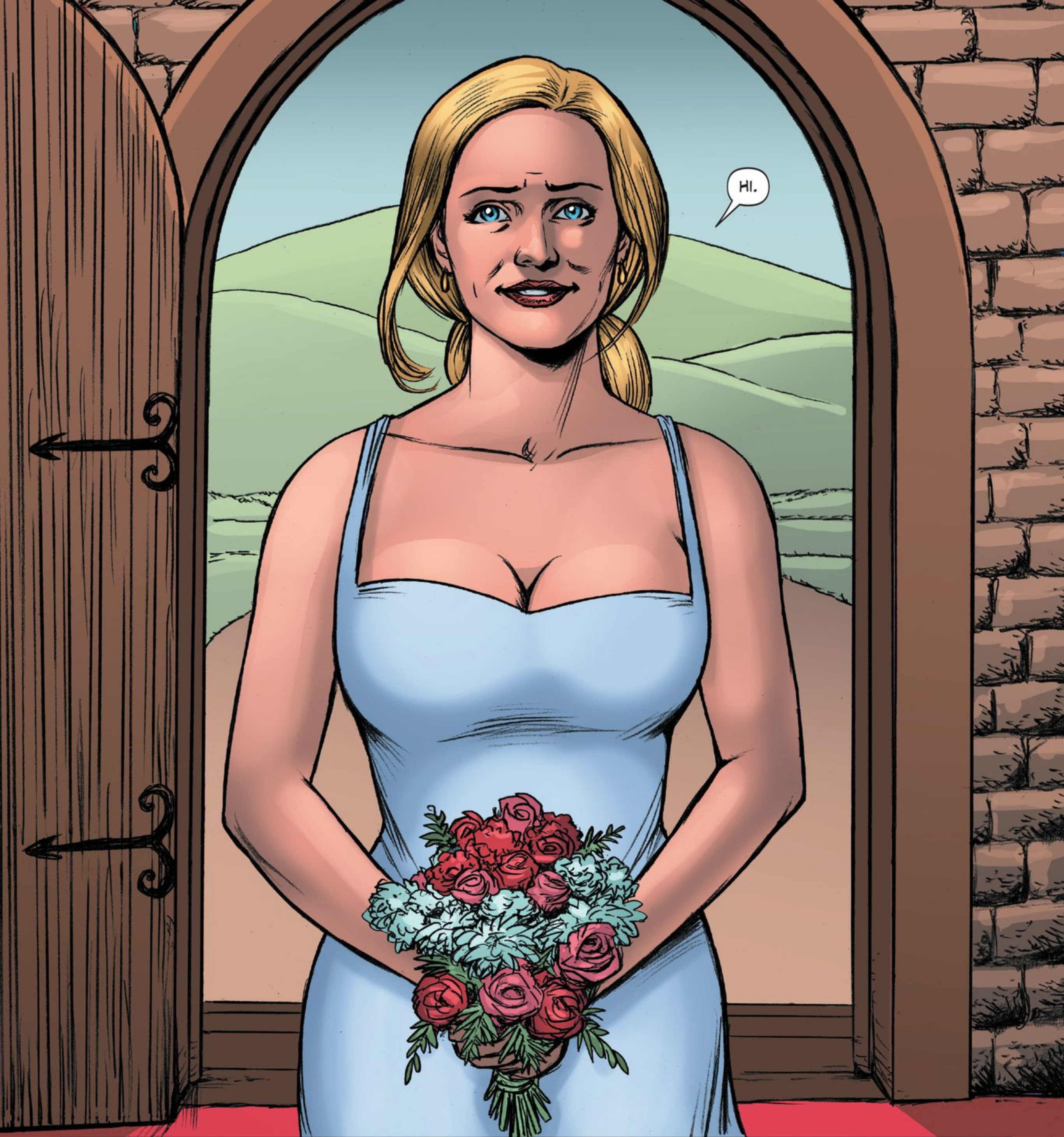


CHRIST, MATE...!

C'MON, YE'LL FUCKIN' SET ME OFF TOO, YE CUNT.



ANYWAY, YE'RE HOLDIN' ONTO THE WRONG LASSIE.









RED SONJA! BLUE SONJA! GREEN SONJA! WRITER CHRISTOPHER HASTINGS GIVES EVERYONE A SONJA!

So is this kind of like a "Crisis on Infinite Sonjas?" Are you pulling inspiration from any other multi-dimensional, mind-bending tales within comics or elsewhere?

Chris: If a story has a multiverse element, I am 10x more likely to check it out and probably love it. I keep typing out and then deleting my answer to this question, because it keeps turning into a list that might as well say "ALL OF THEM." But in particular, I gave myself a refresher course on material that embraces the fun of the mashup and lays down excuses to get characters you don't normally see together into big crazy fights. The Marvel versus DC/Amalgam universe stuff really helped me get in the right headspace.

It's essentially a "tournament arc," right? Like as is popular in some manga, anime or even something like the classic Contest of Champions. How many Sonjas will fans get to see in this series?

Chris: You're absolutely right! The Sonjas across the infinite parallel realities have done something to piss off a divine force that touches the multiverse. That force's representative, Saint Sonja hops from world to world, forcing the Sonjas to battle in a tournmanet. As far as how many, we've got a core cast of about seven different Sonjas, but eventually it's only going to be limited to how many different Sonjas Pasquale wants to draw. We might be starting with the She-Devil with a Dinosaur, and the She-Devil with a Mech, but we can take that basic format and go verrrrryyy far.

Do you have favorite Sonjas among the cast that you're excited to share?

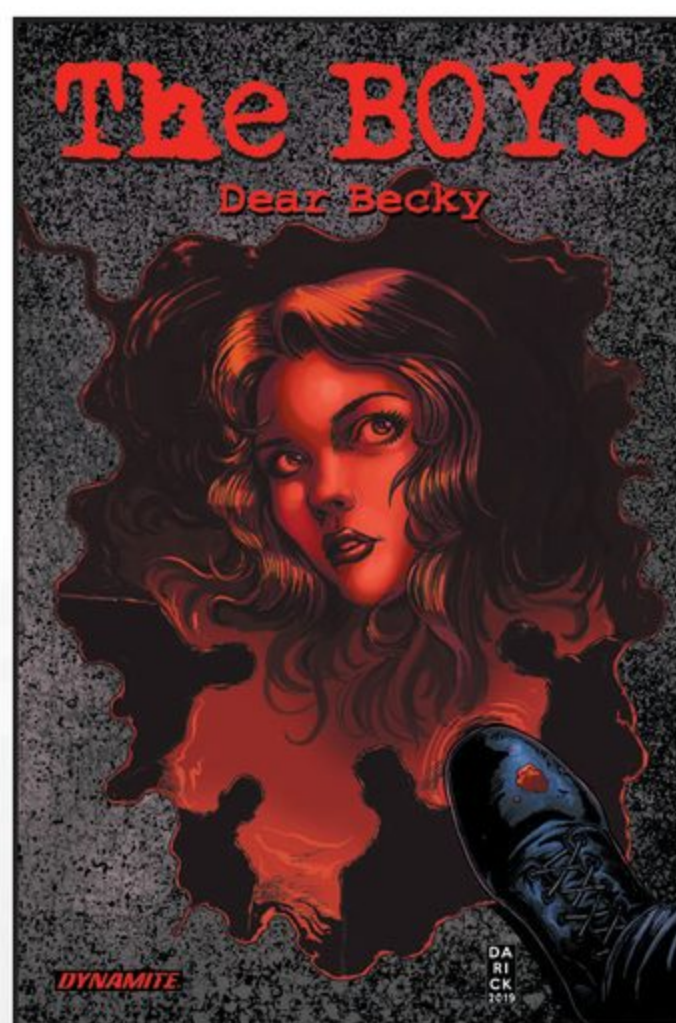
Chris: Well I mentioned the Dinosaur Sonja, and the Mech Pilot Sonja. Writing their battle was what really got me excited for the possibilities of this comic. I'm also pumped for Blue Sonja, who is basically the Red Sonja of an 80s action movie. Big guns, motorcycle, explosives. I cannot wait. We've also got a steampunk monster-hunter Sonja who's a ton of fun. The designs that have come in for the cyborg Sonja have been sick. I think I could probably write 24 issues around Hell Sonja alone -- Okay I just realized I'm simply listing "ALL OF THEM" again. The main thing is that we're really trying for a genre balance among the main cast, and just constantly trying to outdo ourselves.

Some of your most celebrated stories are chock full of humor, like the fan-favorite Unbelievable Gwenpool and the Adventures of Dr. McNinja. Can readers expect some good laughs in this fracas too?

Chris: I'm REALLY trying to keep my yuks in check on this one. I want this to feel like a pulpy Red Sonja story that happens to be mashed into other action comic genres. I want the baddies to feel scary (not all the Sonjas are heroes!), the stakes to be real, and for there to be a whole lot of blood. If there's anything I'm pulling from my experience writing Dr. McNinja, it's that any time it could go over the top, it did. That said I am allowing myself to have one of the Sonjas be "the funny one." Every team has to have a Michelangelo.

The premise of this title is just begging for some wild artwork, both inside from Pasquale Qualano (DIE!NAMITE, Dejah Thoris) and an onslaught of beautiful covers depicting all the various colored Sonjas. As an artist yourself, how has it been collaborating with Pasquale and seeing all the work come in?

Chris: I am not a *great* artist, so my experience is probably the same as it would be for anyone else. I get some artwork in my inbox, I look at it, and then I yell "HOLY S#@T" out loud.

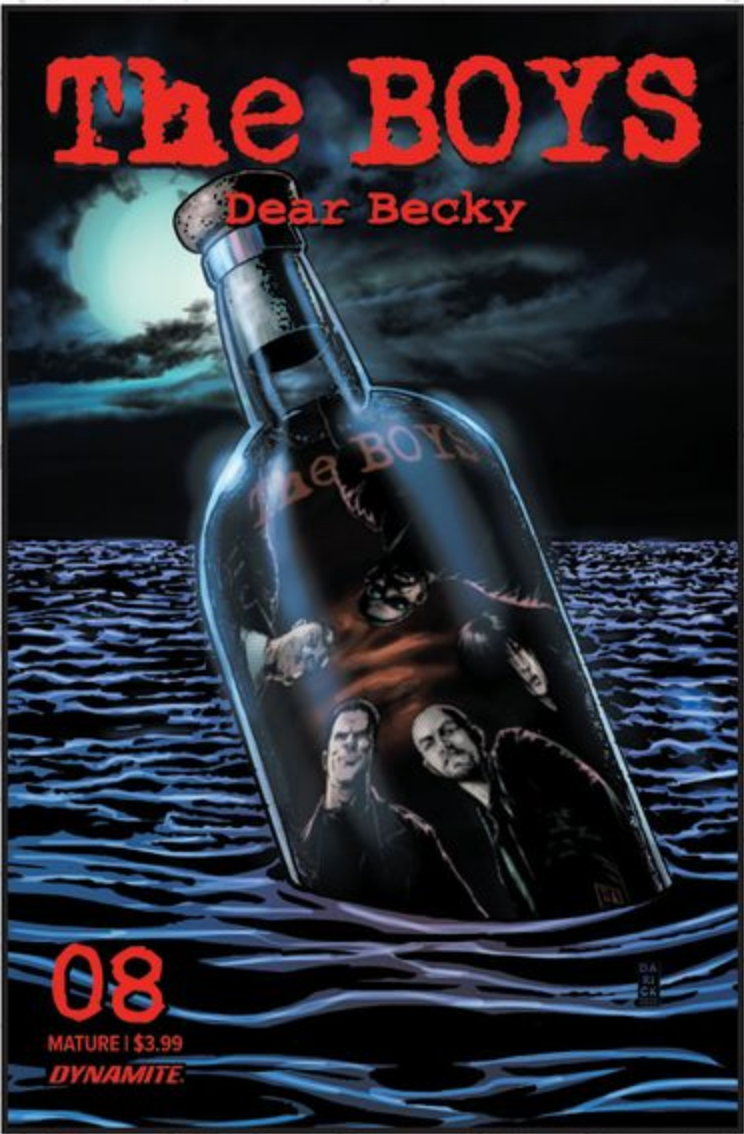


COMING SOON

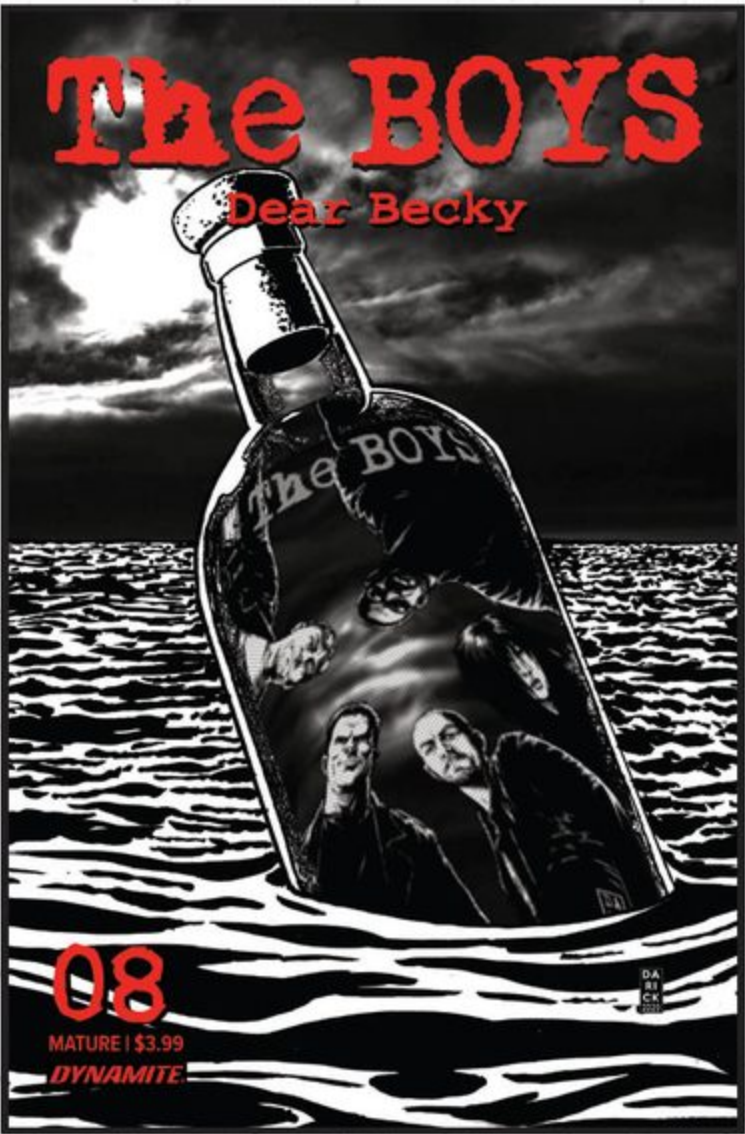
THE BOYS: DEAR BECKY TRADE PAPERBACK

Twelve years after the events of The Boys, Hughie finds himself back home in Scotland where he intends to finally marry Annie in the company of friends and family. But the sudden appearance of a peculiar document sends our hero into a tailspin and threatens to bring the events of his nightmarish past crashing down on him in the worst possible way. There was one story about The Boys that Hughie never knew. Now, whether he likes it or not, he's going to.

Collects issues #1-8 of The Boys: Dear Becky.



COVER A
DARICK
ROBERTSON
colors by
TONY AVIÑA



LINE ART PREMIUM
FOC BONUS VARIANT
COVER
DARICK
ROBERTSON



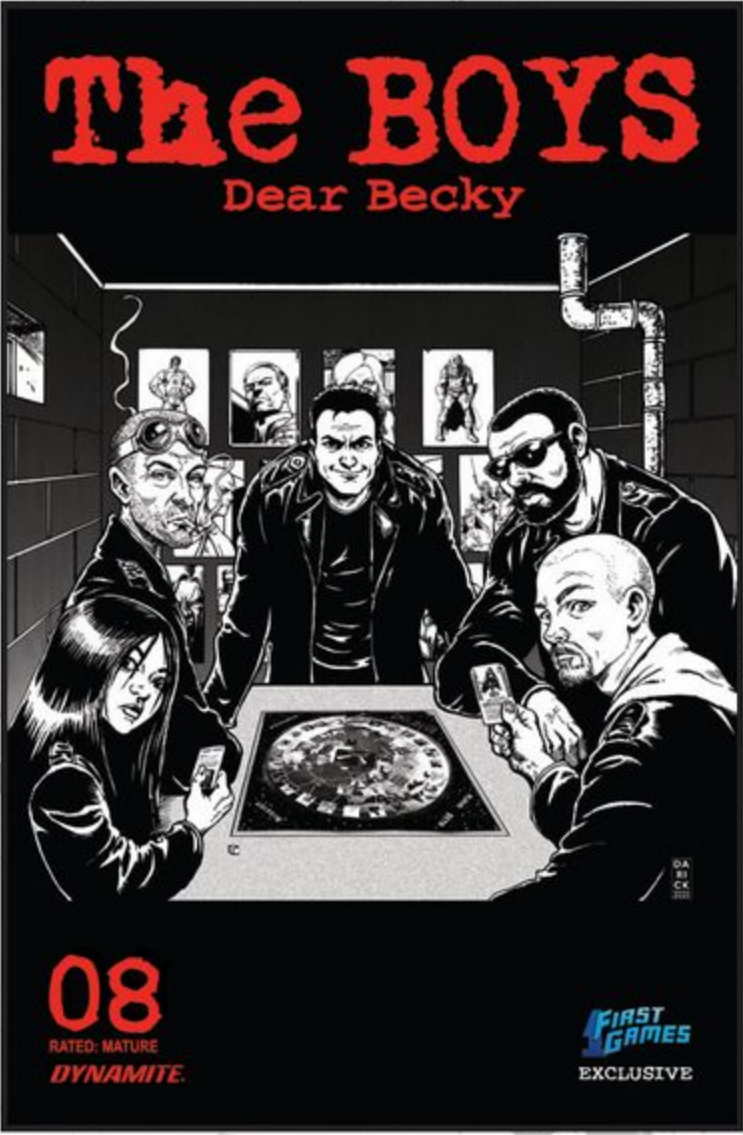
VIRGIN ART
PREMIUM FOC BONUS
VARIANT COVER
DARICK
ROBERTSON
colors by
TONY AVIÑA



EXCLUSIVE
"VIRGIN" HOMELANDER
COVER A
art by
MIKE MAYHEW
MIKEMAYHEWSTUDIOS.COM
COMICCONLINE.COM



EXCLUSIVE
"VIRGIN" HOMELANDER
COVER B
art by
MIKE MAYHEW
MIKEMAYHEWSTUDIOS.COM
COMICCONLINE.COM



EXCLUSIVE
1FIRST GAMES COVER
art by
DARICK
ROBERTSON
THEBOYSBOARDGAME.COM

Cover Gallery

D.R. & QUINCH

